(e) whether Government would give one increment in January 2006 to the employees whose increments were delayed;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) As per Sixth Central Pay Commission's recommendations accepted by the Government, the date of annual increments in all cases is 1st of July. Employees completing six months and above in the scale as on 1st July are eligible for annual increment on that date.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) After the implementation of Sixth Central Pay Commission's recommendation relating to date of increment, now there is only one date of annual increment in all cases, which is 1st of July.

Merger of posts

369. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Government posts bearing pre-revised scales of 6500-10500 and 7450-11500 have been merged;

(b) whether it has been carried out on non-functional basis or functional basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; department-wise;

(d) whether the merger has also made changes in the seniority of employees falling under these groups of employees; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) This has been carried out as per the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission. These posts are spread across various Ministries and Departments.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Investment in IPL by banks

370. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that looking at the profits earned by the sponsors of Indian Premier League (IPL) the private equity funds, commercial and investment banks or even conventional banks may be lured to join IPL;

(b) if so, the details of financial performance of IPL this year;

(c) whether there are any guidelines for private equity fund, commercial and investment banks, and conventional banks for joining IPL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) its impact on social schemes of Government so far as conventional banks are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) In the Indian Premier League (IPL) there are 8 (eight) Franchisee teams and none of them belong to private equity funds, commercial and investment banks. None of the private equity funds, commercial and investment banks were sponsors of IPL in the first year. While the details of financial performance of individual franchisee are not available, different stakeholders joining the IPL based on their own business consideration may not have any impact on the social sector schemes of government.

Under reporting of revenue by Reliance Communications

371. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to Kotak Institutional Equity Research Report dated July 2008, Reliance Communications have under-reported its revenue to Government causing loss to exchequer;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) have received complaints in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken so far to recover the under-reported amount from Reliance Communications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Initiative of NHB

372. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the initiative launched by National Housing Bank (NHB) for providing rural housing micro finance is a test case watched carefully by the financial world;

(b) whether the scheme was launched by the Ministry in Tamil Nadu recently;

(c) if so, whether the scheme has been successful; and

(d) if so, to what extent it has been helpful and whether Government is considering having this scheme throughout India?